

NEWSLETTER

AIDS NETWORK OF EDMONTON SOCIETY

February 1988

Vol. 3 No. 2

PROVINCE-WIDE AIDS AWARENESS WEEK DECLARED

The first province-wide AIDS AWARENESS WEEK is being held here in Alberta, March 21 - 27, 1988.

The week, which was originally planned by AIDS Calgary, became a provincial effort when AIDS NETWORK of Edmonton and Interagency AIDS groups in Grande Prairie, Red Deer and Lethbridge scheduled events to coincide. Ralph Klein, Mayor of Calgary has declared the week for the City of Calgary, and Mayor Lawrence Decore is expected to make a similar declaration for Edmonton.

The Honourable Jim Dinning, Minister of Community and Occupational Health, will be announcing the week as an official province wide event, and it is hoped that health units across the province will plan events or activities during the week to help raise awareness about AIDS.

Events scheduled for Edmonton include Safer Sex Seminars, sponsored jointly by AIDS NETWORK and the Sexual Transmitted Disease Clinic; the NETWORK's annual general meeting, with guest speaker Jim Dinning; Minister for Alberta Community and Occupational Health, an official office opening ceremony for the NETWORK's new facilities; and a film and video viewing day at the NETWORK office.

A complete schedule will be sent to NETWORK members in March, and events will be posted at the NETWORK office.

***** ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the AIDS Network of Edmonton Society will take place on Wednesday, March 23, 1988 at 7:30 p.m. in the Edmonton Public Library Theatre, # 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square.

Dr. Laurence Jewell, M. D., Chairperson of the Board of Directors and other Board members will report on activities of the NETWORK during the last year. The 1987 Annual Report will be available.

Nominees who've been selected by the Search Committee will be officially elected to the Board of Directors. Only those having current memberships will be eligible to vote.

Chairperson, Dr. L. Jewell, will present the first AIDS Network of Edmonton Society's Community Leadership Award.

An informal social will follow in the lobby of the Library Theatre.

FEBRUARY IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH!

Take the time to renew your current membership or become a new member of the NETWORK.

Members in good standing can vote at the AGM and receive a monthly newsletter. Your membership gives us the strong community base we need!

MCLEAN'S SEX SURVEY PART II

by: Wayne Hellard

In the second part of this report on the MacLean's/Decima Poll, we will take a look at what this research poll found out about Canadian's views on sex with a stranger, sexual activity, and affairs outside of a relationship.

Very few would argue that a key player in the fight against AIDS is education of Canadians in an attempt to change behavior in order to decrease the risk of the spread of HIV. As AIDS is sexually transmitted, the behavior we are trying to change is sexual practices. Just how successful we are is of definite interest to those involved in the fight against the spread of AIDS. Many experts stress that restricting ourselves to a monogamous relationship reduces the risk of contracting AIDS. How do Canadians listen to this advice?

HAVE YOU EVER HAD SEX WITH A STRANGER(%)?		
	1986	1987
YES	16	17
NO/NO ANSWER	84	83

While the one percent increase over 1986 may not be all that significant, a decrease of even one percent would have been preferable.

"The sexual behavior segment of the 1987 MacLean's/Decima poll showed that ...sixty-five percent of the unfaithful suffered no emotional or physical effects as a consequence, and 27 per cent claimed that the experience had not deterred them from doing it again".

—ARE BEHAVIOURS CHANGING?—

In total, 12 per cent of the respondents admitted to having affairs outside of their current relationship, with more than one-quarter admitting to having four or more affairs.

Are behaviors changing? This poll suggests little change as 65% of those

involved in extra-relationship affairs stated that "... they suffered no emotional or physical affects as a consequence..." and 27% claimed that the experience did not deter them from repeating the behavior again. Interestingly, more men than women felt this way.

SEXUAL ACTIVITY (%)			
	1985	1986	1987
VERY ACTIVE	18	15	15
SOMEWHAT	55	54	44
NOT VERY	14	16	29
NOT AT ALL	10	9	12

—YOUNG PROFESSIONAL MALES AT RISK—

The results of the 1987 poll compared to 1985 and 1986 on this question appear to suggest that the "very active" group, while small in numbers continues to remain constant over the three year period reported, suggesting a target group for education. The profile developed from this group suggests that the person most likely to have multiple sex partners is a single male, 30 years of age, in a professional occupation.

Statistically, sexual activity broke down by age groups shows that the most sexually active were 30 to 34 years of age. Next were those between ages 25 to 29, with the third category being those between ages 50 to 54. In fourth place we find those between ages 35 to 39. Perhaps the most surprising and enlightening is that those between the ages of 18 to 24 trailed in fifth place.

In the 1987 poll, a new question was posed - "If you have been married or lived with a partner, have you ever had an affair outside that relationship?" In response to this question, 12% said yes, while 88% said no, or did not answer it. Again a suggestion that behaviors may have changed, however, since this is the first year that this question was asked, there is no previous data to compare the response to.



WISH LIST

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If you've had the opportunity to visit our new offices you will appreciate how the new space has improved both the atmosphere and working conditions. The larger facility, with closed offices, a separate working area for volunteers, and the drop-in area for clients has allowed us to expand our activities and services.

You will also have noticed that we are lacking much of the equipment and office furniture needed to fully benefit from the increase in space.

We have a "wish list", and we are hoping that the following items will be donated:

steno desk
 standard desks
 Board tables
 folding tables (2½ x 5 ft.), 2½ x 8 ft.)
 coffee tables
 occasional chairs
 small fridge
 bookcases
 filing cabinets - 2 drawer lateral
 4 drawer lateral

desk chairs
 stacking/folding chairs
 pictures, prints
 credenza
 lamps
 secure storage cabinet
 computer desk/table
 steno chairs
 plants
 pots/baskets
 storage shelving
 drafting table
 lateral drawer storage unit
 (posters & materials)
 lettra-set storage cabinet
 lunchroom furniture
 drop-in centre furniture
 adding machines
 audio visual equipment

NOTE: Receipts for income tax purposes can be issued for financial donations.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS

We have recently completed another series of volunteer training sessions. It is exciting for us to welcome the 27 individuals who bring a diversity of skills, interests and personalities to the NETWORK. Welcome to Darlene, Laurie, Catherine, George, Lisa, Dan, Marven, David, Janice, Jeannette, John, Norman, Ian, Kim, Ron, Chris, Jennifer, Judy, Mark, Wayne, Nancy, James, Pat, Edward, Gwen, Jean, Lil. If volunteers have not yet arranged when and how they will begin contributing time to us please call Brigitte or Diane at 424-4767.

THANKS!

Very special thanks to Wally for giving so generously of his time, humor, and diverse talents in helping us with the office move including getting us settled into our new surroundings so smoothly. The many hours of organizing the behind-the-scenes details were very much appreciated. Thanks Wally!

Thanks to David Andrews for helping us with many additional hours of administrative support. Your many varied talents in purchasing and organizing were an important contribution to our relatively recent move.

Thanks to many volunteers who helped with the recent AADAC/AIDS Conference, including Debbie, Gwen, Don, Marven, Lil, James, Neil, Cindy and Chris.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS WANTED

We are hoping to personalize the volunteer area with colorful graphics, posters, plants, etc. Do you have a plant, which you're tired of, a poster or inspirational saying you would like to donate? Please don't be shy to bring in items to make this area yours.

THANK YOU!

Many individuals have given their time and efforts to the AIDS NETWORK in the past month. Special thanks to David and Caroline of Celebrate Society and the NETWORK volunteers who assisted them at the January 22nd fund raising dance which raised \$400.00 for the NETWORK.

The AIDS NETWORK moved to new offices January 15th. Volunteers, especially organizer Wally Smith, and staff are to be congratulated for their fine work in packing, moving and setting up the new office.

We are especially grateful to the individual who designated his 1987 United Way contribution to the AIDS Network of Edmonton through his organization's monthly payroll deduction program. Individuals interested in contributing to the AIDS NETWORK in this way should think about indicating so on their contribution card in the 1988 campaign.

SUPPORT FOR YOU

As part of our effort to provide service to those directly or indirectly affected by HIV and AIDS, the Support Groups continue to offer the safe environment where individuals can express their concerns and anxiety, learn how to cope, gain information, discuss issues, find support in grief and learn how to live positively.

The Family, Friends and Partners group addresses the needs of those who care for and support a person with AIDS as well as those who have lost someone to AIDS. The group environment provides a forum for lovers, parents, siblings, children and spouses to express concerns, deal with feelings and issues of caring and grieving for a PWA.

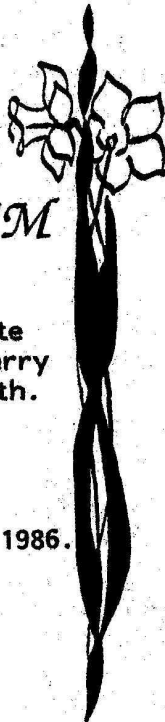
As always these services are provided in confidence and free.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we note the passing of our friends Gerry and Tim who left us this month.

We will miss them dearly.

We remember too, our friend, Luis, who died in February, 1986.



APRIL

April 13 to 15

Alberta Hospital Association Conference: AIDS Rights and Responsibilities, for Health Care Providers, Hospital Administrators, Trustees, and Department heads of Clinical and Support Services.

Phone: 423-1776, Extension 408 for further details.

April 20

"Emerging Issues in Human Resources Management Conference", at the Four Seasons Hotel in Edmonton. The conference will include sessions on AIDS. For registration information contact Suzanne Russell at 429-1407.

May 15 - 18

National AIDS Conference in Toronto, jointly sponsored by the Canadian AIDS Society, Canadian Public Health Association and Health and Welfare Canada. Contact the AIDS Network of Edmonton Society for registration information or if you are interested in sponsoring someone to attend this conference.

MAY

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

The Edmonton Palliative Care Coordinating Council is sponsoring a Multidisciplinary symposium to be held at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel, Edmonton, on March 17 - 18, 1988. Topics will include, "The Team Approach to Palliative Care" and "Ethical Issues in Palliative Care". For more information contact: Mrs. Marion Boyd - 477-4299.

AIDS Awareness Week March 21 -27

Safer Sex Seminars Tuesday March 22

Annual General Meeting Wed. March 23
at 7:30 PM

Film & Video Showing Fri., March 25
at 2 - 6 PM

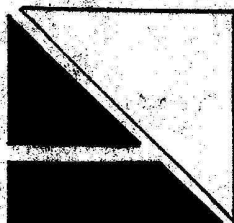
Office Opening Sun, March 27
at 2 PM

AIDS Network Annual General Meeting

All Volunteers! This is for you ! The annual general meeting on March 23rd at 7:30 p.m. will be an opportunity for you to meet other volunteers, staff and board members of the NETWORK. This meeting is considered a very important event for all volunteers to attend to learn about the activities of the past year and look ahead together into 1988-89. A social will follow the AGM.

Office Address:

10704 - 108 Street
Second Floor
Edmonton, AB
T5H 3A3



Telephone Number:

Info Line: 429-AIDS

Business Line: 424-4767

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Information Line Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday - 12 noon - 4 p.m.

The Newsletter is published monthly by the AIDS NETWORK of Edmonton Society with financial assistance from the HEALTH PROMOTION DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH AND WELFARE CANADA. The AIDS NETWORK of Edmonton Society, incorporated in February, 1986, is a registered non-profit charitable organization. The mandate of the AIDS NETWORK is to provide education about AIDS to the general public and individuals at risk, support to individuals affected by AIDS, and coordination of services for people with AIDS or ARC. Articles are usually prepared by NETWORK staff and/or the source acknowledged when reprinted.

**FEBRUARY IS
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
MONTH!**



Ross Armstrong Office, 2nd Floor, 10704 - 108 Street,
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 3A3
(403) 424-4767

AIDS Network of Edmonton Society

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

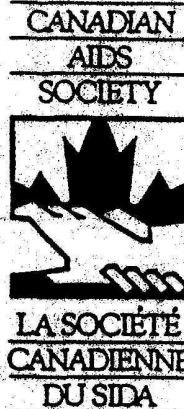
A \$25⁰⁰ membership entitles the undersigned to discount admission at specified AIDS NETWORK events, regular newsletter mailings, and the right to vote at AIDS NETWORK meetings.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please notify the AIDS NETWORK if your address changes.

Please enquire about the reduced membership rates for students or the unemployed.

The AIDS NETWORK of
Edmonton is a Member
of the CANADIAN AIDS
SOCIETY/LA SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE DU SIDA



**SERVICES PROVIDED BY
THE AIDS NETWORK
OF EDMONTON SOCIETY**

The AIDS Network of Edmonton Society, incorporated in February, 1986, is a registered non-profit charitable organization. The mandate of the AIDS NETWORK is to provide education about AIDS to the high-risk groups and the general public, support to individuals with AIDS and ARC and co-ordination of services for individuals with AIDS/ARC.

INFORMATIONAL: An informational and support line operates Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. A leading resource library is available to agencies and the public.

EDUCATIONAL: A speakers' bureau provides speakers for Educational presentations to concerned groups. Audiovisual materials and information files are available on loan.

COUNSELLING: Confidential one-on-one counselling services are available to persons directly or indirectly concerned about AIDS.

Referrals to other professional services are made upon request.

SUPPORT GROUPS: For persons who have tested positive for HIV Antibodies. For persons with AIDS. Friends, families, and partners of persons with AIDS.

ADVOCACY: Assistance will be provided to individuals facing difficulties in receiving services because of their health status.

The AIDS NETWORK works to coordinate the services of supportive public and private agencies in all areas involved by the AIDS crisis.

The services of the AIDS Network of Edmonton Society are provided FREE and on a CONFIDENTIAL bases.

"AIDS Network of Edmonton Society Newsletter February 1988 Vol. 3 Issue. 2." AIDS Network of Edmonton Newsletter, vol. 3, no. 2, Feb. 1988, pp. 1+. Archives of Sexuality and Gender, link.gale.com/apps/doc/HWXGST927498024/AHSI?u=edmo87290&sid=bookmark-AHSI. Accessed 12 July 2024.